

MINUTES  
OPC MEETING  
June 17, 2010

First Selectman David Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. in Room 206 at Town Hall.

Present were First Selectman, David M. Campbell; Board of Finance Chairman, Murry Stegelmann; Board of Education Vice Chairman, Betsy Hagerty-Ross; P & Z Chairman, Fred Conze and Administrative Officer, Karl Kilduff.

**Board of Finance**

Mr. Stegelmann noted that the Board of Finance had approved \$18,300 in spending for the Parks & Recreation Department to have drawings completed that will get the Weed Beach project ready for bidding. The Board of Finance originally planned to bond \$2,000,000 of the project and use surplus money to cover the remaining \$1,600,000. It is likely that if the project moves forward at this time that the board will ask for additional bonding rather than use surplus funds.

Concerning the 35 Leroy Ave. property, Mr. Stegelmann commented that a decision on the final use of the site may not be made by September because the money for a project at that site will need to be approved by the RTM. The board will consider a short term note sale to preserve its flexibility on spending for a project at this location.

In response to a question raised by Mr. Conze, Mr. Stegelmann said that transfer taxes were 50% more than budgeted for this year. In contrast, building permits are down more than budgeted for this year.

**Board of Education**

Ms. Hagerty-Ross stated that the Board of Education has hired Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Stephen Falcone, to be the new Superintendent of Darien Schools and he officially begins his new role on July 1, 2010.

Ms. Hagerty-Ross expressed the Board's support of the YMCA's plan to build a gymnastics center at its site on Post Road. It will benefit Darien's gymnastics teams and help alleviate the space crunch at the high school. Mr. Conze noted that the YMCA is basically a service provider to the residents of town and it must find ways to meet the needs/desires of its members.

The issue of lights at the high school may need to be readdressed depending on the schedules for the high school football team and the Darien Junior Football League. The high school athletic director will review schedules and make a proposal.

Additionally, she noted that the Board of Education will be making it a priority to look into self-insurance when they meet over the summer.

**Town Administrator**

Karl Kilduff, Town Administrator, mentioned that among capital projects scheduled to be discussed at the July 12, 2010 Board of Selectmen's meeting is the proposal to move the Senior Center to Town Hall and the Board of Education to 35 Leroy Ave.

Mr. Kilduff also stated that there will be a public hearing on July 29, 2010 regarding the moratorium on affordable housing. Planning and Zoning will hold the public hearing in the auditorium of Town Hall beginning at 8:00 p.m.

**Planning & Zoning**

Mr. Fred Conze discussed the redevelopment of Noroton Heights shopping area proposed by Tom Golden. The plan is to develop the entire 20 acre shopping area and not just the 8 acres Mr. Golden presently owns. Mr. Conze noted that this provides the town of Darien a unique opportunity to create a unified, forward thinking development which is a rare occurrence for communities in our area at this time.

Mr. Conze mentioned that there are some properties in town which have unusual zoning concerns. In standard situations the parking requirements are determined by the square footage of the building, but in non-conforming properties it may benefit the town to consider that the parking requirements reflect the use of the building.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 15, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 206.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary  
Recording Secretary